Dunham Park
Bristol
Nov^br 29
1868

My dear Mr May

I suppose it is you to whom I am indebted for sending me a Liberator, but whoever may have been so kind as to do that, I know I have to tell you how pleasant it was to me to read your letter in it, on the death of my loved husband. In the midst of such sorrow as only such a loss could have caused, it is soothing to know how he was appreciated by all for and near who had intercourse with him - and that his untiring efforts in the cause of human freedom and happiness, have found a grateful and admiring response in hearts which could best understand them. Even on his sick bed, he was still ever laboring in the work to which his life had been devoted. He left unfinished, six chests of a

a letter intended ~~for~~ to promote the
better education and training of our
young ministers in the holy faith
he loved - and I think his last
letter (not a mere family one) was to
Lord Brougham, in thankfulness for
his speech on the renewal, by the
French government, of the African
slave trade, under the milder name
of "Immigration" - an evil which filled
his mind with sorrowing foreboding -
Now all sorrow and anxiety, for him,
are ended - and he sees, as faith cannot
see, how all things are working the
Father's great purposes of mercy - I
dare not wish him back in the
darkness of life - but oh it is dark
and dreary indeed to me without
him, and I feel the deep need of
all the light Christ has given to save
me in the darkness which has fallen
over my days - I am very fully
occupied with my pupils - and I
believe it is well that I am so,
but I miss the aid and encouragement
he used to give me in so anxious an

employment every hour. One of my pupils is a french girl from New Orleans - brought up in most utter ignorance and misapprehension of the great ~~theme~~ question which is agitating her country - I never could understand before how the simplicity and innocence of childhood could help seeing the wickedness of the system under which they were living - But now I can understand the possibility of some brought up in its midst, living ignorant of its great wrong, at least until the subject was brought before them in a new light - Now they require an emancipation as great as that we would have them give to their slaves -

If I should by and by wish to collect any of my dear husbands letters, do you think you could get for me copies of a few of the most interesting he has written to American friends of some I have copies, but until the holidays (when I shall I hope have leisure to sort his papers) I do not know what -

I have been very glad to continue to receive the Standard. Though I feel I have no claim to such a privilege, but I endeavour to make it useful by lending it to others & so informed them I am — I should fear the present state of commercial affairs in America will have an unfavourable effect on the Fancy Fair this year. People will hardly be able to support it as they usually do, but we must believe all is right and well, and our business is, to how we too can work to bring good out of evil —

Always believe me

My dear Mr Estlin.

Yours most truly

Frances Armstrong.

I ought to have told you how well I too remember the delight with which my husband welcomed to his house an earnest worker Irish American in the cause to which he had been much devoted years before it was much attended to in Bristol. I find in his Journal 1838 when he first settled in Bristol, his regret that so little interest was shown in anti slavery works by his congregation here —

MS. B.1.6 vi 7, p. 79